



New Main Street Development Coming

By Erik Jackson

Editor

A blighted Main Street relic will soon return to its former glory. 10 West Main is slated to open by the end of 2015, a structure that was once Snyder's Grocery.

Beneficiary of more than \$2 million in renovations, the site will accommodate 13 retail/ office spaces. The back half will become an event center, one replete with 14,000 square feet.

"It will have an occupancy around 900, making it the largest event center in city limits," owner Joe Carson said. "We will be able to host weddings, receptions, and graduation parties."

Calling it a "challenge at every turn," Carson purports progress has been slow. Citing the rising cost of building materials and the inherent issues with the facility, Carson says nothing has been easy during the renovation.

"We could have torn it down, as it would have been far less expensive to build new," he said. "But it's an historic landmark, and it means something to many within our community."

"The problem is that everything has been three times more expensive than originally expected. The electrical had been stolen, and the plumbing will require new lines in and out."

Carson began preliminary work one year ago, yet the last two weeks have been ones in which the most progress has been made. It took him six months to be granted a building permit.

Due to financial concerns, many of the amenities have been scaled back, and everything regarding the project remains "subject to change." Fortunately, there has been a great deal of interest from potential tenants.

"We've had several restaurants inquire about the space. Our goal is to have it open by the end of the year, and I think we'll have most of it rented by that point. It's just a matter of seeing everything through in the meantime."

Pam Shelton, Director of Yukon's Best Main Street Route 66, is excited about the effort.

"I couldn't be happier to see the building saved and repurposed," she said. "This is a building that our town cherishes, and seeing it get a second chance means everything."

"Our Main Street corridor is one that will see dramatic revitalization in the years to come, and this is evidence that we are on the right path. I can't wait to see it once completed."

If interested in tenancy, contact Carson at (405) 206-4033.